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ABSTRACT

In response to the United Nations' declaration of 1981 as the International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP), the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) of the American Library Association (ALA) set up an IYDP committee to carry out the objectives of the year. This document, based on state library reports and other materials received by the IYDP committee throughout 1981, outlines U.S. library activities designed to improve service to persons with disabilities and encourage their full participation in society. Library activities are highlighted in the following areas: (1) promoting awareness of the needs of the disabled; (2) providing access to buildings and programs for the disabled; (3) cooperating with a variety of agencies to produce workshops, conferences, and seminars for and about the disabled; (4) training present and incoming personnel in working with the disabled; (5) increasing employment of disabled persons in libraries; (6) acquiring more library resources for the disabled; and (7) expanding library services for the disabled. Information on IYDP committee members and actions during 1981 is also provided. The report concludes with a discussion of the continuation of library activities for the disabled in 1982, which has been designated the U.S. National Year of Disabled Persons (NYDP). (Author/ESR)

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LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR - 1981

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1982

Compiled by Phyllis I. Dalton, Chairperson, Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies, American Library Association, International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981, Committee

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PREFACE

One approach the United Nations uses to address world-wide problems, with the hope of increasing action to solve them, is to declare an International Year. 1981 was the International Year of Disabled Persons as declared by the United Nations. The United States Congress followed through in 1982 by declaring 1982 the National Year of Disabled Persons. The next ten years are recognized as the Decade of Disabled Persons.

One approach that the American Library Association used to help meet the problems recognized during the International Year of Disabled Persons was exemplified by the proposal of Elizabeth W. Stone, Vice-President, President Elect in 1980. She proposed a four point program for ALA action during her year of presidency in 1981. Specifically they were:

- o ALA should sponsor a symposium addressing the question, "What should curriculum in library schools be in order to serve better the disabled?"
- o ALA should provide advance braille copies of major ALA agendas and papers for Midwinter and Annual Conferences produced in cooperation with the National Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped.
- o An issue of the LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY REPORTS, during the International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981, should be devoted to evaluative studies of mechanical aids for disabled persons which are particularly recommended for libraries. Also, libraries should be accessing data on equipment and devices for disabled persons. This data is being input at the National Rehabilitation Center (NARIC) as database ABLEDATA.
- o Cooperate with other national groups participating in the celebration: specifically, IFLA and the World Council of the Welfare of the Blind.

One approach that the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies used in observing the International Year of Disabled Persons was to set up an interdivisional committee on IYDP to carry out the objectives of the Year. The ASCLA members were appointed by Carmela Ruby, ASCLA President, and each Division President appointed a representative. The resulting committee was composed of: ASCLA members: R. Brantley Cagle, Jr., Marie A. Davis, Shirley E. Havens, Ann Thompson Langevin, Eunice G. Lovejoy, Grace J. Lyons, Harris C. McClaskey, Catherine P. Morales, Evaline B. Neff, Larry K. Volin, Larry Weitkemper. The ALA Division Representatives: Luke A. Yaeger (AASL), Eliza T. Dresang (ALSC), Fred K. Darragh (ALTA), Sharon A. Hammer (ACRL), Shelia Johnson (LAMA), Alar Kruus (LITA), Carol LeDuc (PLA), Lelia B. Saunders (RASD), Lizbeth J. Bishoff (RTSD), Jo-Anne Weinberg (YASD). Consultants: Frank Kurt Cylke and Alice Hagemeyer. ALA Executive Board Liaison: Elizabeth W. Stone. Chairperson: Phyllis I. Dalton.

The Committee was continued, in January, 1982, through the end of the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982, to "Follow Through in '82" and to continue the momentum of the International Year of Disabled persons, 1981.

As one of its legacies for the International Year of Disabled Persons, the IYDP Committee of ASCLA/ALA is leaving the following report of the highlights of activities in libraries in the United States during the International Year of Disabled Persons with the hope that these accomplishments will be an inspiration to libraries everywhere, now and on a continuing basis. The International Year of Disabled Persons in ALA/ASCLA, 1981, was a year of emphasis on a continuing problem and how to increase action to help ensure, through libraries, the full participation of disabled persons in the life of their societies.

INTRODUCTION

1981 was declared the International Year of Disabled Persons by the General Assembly of the United Nations and 1982, the National Year of Disabled Persons by the United States Congress. What was really done about services to disabled people in the International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981, and what is planned for the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982, for the next ten years, the Decade of Disabled Persons, and beyond? Is there visibility? Is there a single voice? With 40 million disabled persons in the United States and with 10 per cent of mankind disabled, all three - action, visibility and a single voice - were recognized as vitally needed during IYDP. What was happening in libraries during the celebration of the year dedicated to ensuring for disabled persons "full participation in society?"

The central theme of the International Year of Disabled Persons of "Full participation and equality" was expressed in 1981, and in the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982, through five main objectives to be carried out in IYDP and followed through in 1982:

- o Help disabled people in adjusting to society
- o Promote efforts to provide disabled people with proper assistance, training, care and guidance as well as opportunities for work.
- o Encourage study and research projects designed to facilitate the practical participation of disabled people in daily life.
- o Educate and inform the public of the rights of disabled persons.

Libraries played a major role in 1981 in carrying out these objectives and are following through in 1982. They have provided information for improving the lives of disabled citizens and disabled persons have been able to maintain currency in information on issues that range from accessibility to research. The International Year was not a time for every library to develop instant programs for library service to every person who is disabled but rather the Year provided the opportunity to work with a group of people who may or may not be served by the library and to develop the kinds of services needed by them. It was a time for libraries to work in the community with other agencies, organizations and individuals to assist in the full participation of disabled persons in society, to carry out the slogan for IYDP in 1981 of "Meeting the Challenges through Partnerships" and to "Continue the Momentum" through the National Year in 1982.

The content of this publication on libraries in the United States

and the International Year is based on the reports received from the state libraries in the United States and on materials received by the Chairperson of the ASCLA/IYDP/NYDP throughout the Year. The material is arranged by the aspects of the needs and accomplishments by and for people with disabilities in the various areas of the programs and several goals for IYDP and beyond.

The contents of this publication are not only retrospective but are forward-looking in the many programs included. Some have only been started, some are still to be developed and others are well established and on-going. The information included demonstrates that libraries are carrying forward the goal of full participation in society of persons with disabilities, not just during special years or a designated decade.but for all times.

AWARENESS

To carry out the goals of the International Year of Disabled Persons, many libraries placed a high priority on Awareness. In fact, some proponents of IYDP believed that the very best results which could be accomplished by IYDP was to make the citizenry aware of the needs of people with disabilities.

Open houses and receptions were high on the list of activities by which people were made aware of the needs and concerns of people with disabilities. One outstanding reception was the International Book/Author Reception which honored 22 authors who have contributed to a better understanding of the capabilities of the disabled. The reception was spearheaded by the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies of the American Library Association and held at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library in Washington, D. C.

Also in Washington, D. C., was another highlight of the Year in the presentation of a program, "Deaf Heritage," held at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library and which featured a panel of eight local authors. They shared their works and life experience with the audience. The program was held during the District of Columbia Public Library's Eighth Deaf Action Week.

In Oregon, the State Library organized and sponsored an International Year of Disabled Persons reception at the State Capitol. It was held during the last session of the legislature and was attended by the legislators, their aides and the general public. In Vermont, the Vermont State Hospital Library sponsored a "tea and art" exhibit to commemorate the Year. In Hawaii, the first library event to open IYDP was the celebration of the birthday of Louis Braille, an event which was proclaimed by the Governor of Hawaii. The Birthday was celebrated by a reception open to the patrons, volunteers and the public. A special IYDP Reception was also held later in the year at the Governor's Mansion with a member of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped staff participating in the program.

The Free Public Library of Philadelphia held an open house which featured exhibits of new sensory aids and a workshop with exhibits for visually impaired students who are going to college.

A "Creativity Festival" celebrating IYDP was held in Nashville,

Tennessee, and sponsored by the Mayor's Committee including arts, crafts, music, dance and drama. The California Library Association, through its Chapter, Library Service to the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, sponsored a program on "The Ideal Library for the Deaf." A tape was a product of the program. The Pennsylvania Library Association included a program on service to the deaf and one on services to the mentally and physically handicapped.

The displays which made people aware of the needs of disabled persons were often a part of an open house or reception but were also held independent of any social or organized event. The Free Library of Philadelphia began the International Year of Disabled Persons celebration with an Art Exhibit by the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Among the activities was a special demonstration by the Library's Theater Collection of "The Kids on the Block" puppet demonstration and a display "Talents Unlimited" of performers with disabilities.

Then the Michigan Department of Education during IYDP decided to devote a number of art displays exclusively to "Handicapper Student Art." It continued from Mid-May through August on the fifth floor of the Michigan National Tower. As a further means of informing Michigan Citizens of available handicapper services, an IYDP poster was developed linking IYDP with Michigan programs. Nearly 2,000 copies of the poster were distributed throughout the State.

Also, a photographic display of twelve disabled persons who have achieved productive careers in Washington. D. C., was on display during IYDP at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library. The title "Friends of the Photographer" referred to George Covington, a visually disabled lawyer and photographer. The photographs of the authors honored at the IYDP/ASCLA Reception at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library and their books were on display at three significant meetings during the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982 - the annual meeting of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped in Washington, D. C.,; the American Library Association Annual conference and the National Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Biennial Conference, both held in Philadelphia.

In honor of Deaf Action Week during IYDP, the main lobby wall cases of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, for the month of December, contained an informative display of important people, places and events relating to deaf history. The prints were from the collection of the National Association of the Deaf. The exhibits throughout the State Library of Pennsylvania focused on raising the public awareness of the goals of IYDP. The exhibit was held for two months in the fall. The Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, declared October 15-November 15, 1981, "Vanderbilt Awareness Month." Activities were held each day to raise awareness in reaching the goals of IYDP. Library services were included in the activities.

Awareness was brought to people through television, radio, newspapers, newsletters and by means of local productions and by those provided by the U. S. Council on the International Year of Disabled Persons, Washington, D. C.

In New Jersey, the Advisory Council to the International Year

of Disabled Persons included a librarian in its membership. One of the activities sponsored by the Council was a reception which recognized the accomplishments of the goals of IYDP - to encourage full participation by and for the disabled in New Jersey during 1981. Through their conferences, exibits, and the mass media drama of "Continental Quest," they achieved that goal. They spread the message widely to business and government. Weber County Library System, Ogden, Utah,had a special exhibit in the Ogden Mall in which they displayed materials of interest to disabled persons. One of ther staff who is fluent in sign language presented a series of programs with songs done in sign.

The Maryland State Department of Education, in its awareness program, distributed the ANCI STANDARDS FOR THE HANDICAPPED to every public library in the State. The staff member responsible for equal access spoke to public administrators giving practical advice and raising their awareness. The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped designed and distributed a mobile display to eleven of the 24 library systems in Maryland. A PSA was produced and broadcast on the LBPH Services in Maryland.

During Handicapped Awareness Week in the East Regional Branch of the Broward County Library System, Florida, librarians for the Blind and Physically Handicapped organized a week of displays, speakers, films and progress highlighted by the performance of the Roadshow Company and members of the SouthEast Florida Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. The SEFRID show," A Chorus of Hands," was a combination of music and sign language, and the Roadshow Co. presented a musical review with songs, dramatization and poetry. Displays from the local organizations filled the corridors of the library. The aim of the weeklong exhbit and activities was to let people know what is available for disabled persons.

In Brunswick, Georgia, the Glynn County Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped selected September as its recognition month for IYDP. Staff members created a display for the lobby of the main library, had bookmarks and bumper stickers made for distribution in the library system and developed billboards with the IYDP theme. The Maryland Library Association,in its publication, THE CRAB, placed special focus on IYDP in the February, 1981, issue from an editorial to special articles and reports of special services. The State Library of Florida publication, KEYSTONE, "A newsletter for libraries serving special folks," devoted considerable space througout the Year in Highlighting IYDP. An especially significant article in December, 1980/January, 1981, told how libraries in Florida could play a major role in observing the International Year of Disabled Persons.

The Bucks County Free Library, Pennsylvania, sponsored a meeting for librarians throughout the County which featured Harriet Savitz, author of several books about disabled persons. Mrs. Savitz was honored also at the countywide activity sponsored by the Montgomery County-Morristown Public Library. Included was a TV interview featuring Mrs. Savitz and wheelchair traveler, Edward Davenport. Harriet Savitz was one of the authors honored at the IYDP reception sponsored by the ASCLA/IYDP Commttee.

In South Carolina, the Library for the Blind and Physically

Handicapped distributed a number of public service announcements devoted to the employment of the disabled. In Kentucky, the Library for the Blind and the Physically Handicapped was highlighted in agency publications and in newsletters with a total circulation of approximately 5,500. Oregon State University provided a publication which outlined information on IYDP activities and projects in the State. The Oregon State Library recorded this publication on cassettes for the handicapped readers in Oregon.

In Ohio, IYDP was publicized in most issues of the "Ohio Libraries Reach Out," Section of NEWS FROM THE OHIO STATE LIBRARY with the January, 1981, issue containing an article about the International Year of Disabled Persons and ways libraries can get involved. COLORADO LIBRARIES, in the March, 1981, issue published "ALA Perspectives for 1981-1982"by Elizabeth W. Stone, then President-Elect of ALA. Included was the four-point program proposed for disabled persons. The Michigan Board of Education encouraged public schools to participate in "IYDP Week in Michigan Public Schools" through a news release and radio public service announcements. The Michigan Legislature passed House Committee Resolution No. 416 which commemorated the special week. More than 200 radio stations in Michigan were requested to air both 20 and 30 second public service announcements announcing 1981 as the IYDP and encouraging listeners to write to the Department for information on available services for disabled persons.

Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System, New York State, conducted radio programs which broadcast information for the handicapped. The New York Public Library System provided information broadcasts for the handicapped and also provided news articles concerning various equipment which can be used by the visually handicapped. Seven commercials were filmed by the Steele Memorial Library System, New York, which were aimed at employment of handicapped persons and aired on local television stations. In Louisiana, several announcements concerning the needs of the handcapped were highlighted in the State Library's monthly publication, LIBRARY COMMUNIQUE.

ACCESS

During the International Year of Disabled Persons, access to buildings and access to programs were strong components of many library activities througout the United States.

The Harold Russell Associates, Inc. workshops and panels, "Section 504 and Public Libraries," held throughout the United States had a strong positive impact on the development of access to library buildings and programs. ASCLA's urging, through INTERFACE, of making access guides available to the public further developed the program. The publication, PLANNING BARRIER FREE LIBRARIES, by the National Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, 1981, provides a guide for the renovation and construction of libraries serving blind and physically handicapped readers.

The actuality of complying in areas of 504 accessibility was demonstrated in many libraries including the Finger Lakes Library System in New York State as well as in the removal of architectural barriers through the use of community funds in the Town of Oyster Bay in the Nassau Library System in New York State and in the concentration in the Shenendahowa and

Burnt Hills Libraries, Southern Adirondack Library System, New York, on building accessibility for the handicapped. In Indiana, 100 people attended three workshops, "Opening Library Doors, Library Accessibility Workshop." As a result of the workshop concerned with accessibility, a church, where a luncheon was held, was made accessible by the building of a ramp. One speaker who believed her facility to be accessible discovered areas for improvement and began a fund drive to make the necessary modifications.

The Connecticut State Library was able to facilitate access and parking for the handicapped in the main building. Among the activities initiated by the IYDP Committee of the Free Library of Philadelphia, was the building of a ramp in the Montgomery Auditorium at the Central Library. They also ensured that the Monthly Calendar of Events is marked with the accessibility symbol for those branches with accessible meeting rooms and an ear for those programs interpreted or captioned for the deaf. The observance of the International Year of Disabled Persons in Massachusetts was marked by the development of five access center libraries. These libraries are the first of a statewide plan for the development of a network of barrier free, specially equipped public libraries which can make aids and devices, special collections and specific expertise accessible to residents in all parts of the State. Plans to remodel library facilities through the addition of ramps and elevators were initiated in many libraries in Massachusetts. A substantial addition which focused on building accessibility was completed in Needham, Massachusetts. The Stoughton Public Library, Massachusetts, benefitted from a visit by the Massachusetts Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities. The group analyzed the Stoughton Public Library facility in terms of accessibility to the disabled. As a result of their assessment, a blinking fire alarm was installed in the library for the benefit of the deaf and the Public Works Department installed a curb cut.

In South Carolina, each public library was required to develop and file a 504 compliance plan. A state library staff member served on the advisory group to assist state agencies in developing 504 plans. In Minnesota, progress was made in many public libraries to make existing buildings completely accessible through the installing of ramps, remodelling rest rooms for handicapped access, designating parking spaces for the handicapped, creating curb cuts and installing elevators. The Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center dedicated its new Walker Branch, totally accessible to the physically handicapped. It replaced an older inaccessible building. Planning is continuing for further accessibility programs. As a part of Maryland's on-going program to make public libraries accessible to all of its citizens, the Maryland State Department of Education Division of Library and Development Services prepared and issued a comprehensive directory, MARYLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE HANDICAPPED: ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES. The directory was distributed to public library administrators, state librarians, and agencies serving the handicapped, as well as to school system administrators.

The New Hampshire State Library, Division of Extension and Library Development has completed its planning to combine four district offices into two accessible regional offices complete with parking for the handicapped. A program of public library accessibility in New Hampshire is resulting in making libraries completely accessible to disabled persons. The New Castle Public Library in Pennsylvania was able to begin IYDP with a move into a

fully accessible building.

Oklahoma became one of the first states in the nation to allocate state funds to remodel libraries to make them accessible to the handicapped with the first project starting in March, 1981. In another first, libraries meeting federal accessibility standards in Oklahoma will receive reflective aluminimum signs in brown and white bearing the familiar wheelchair logo. Signs will alert all users to the location of their library and especially invite the disabled. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries is responsible for allocating funds and supervising renovation plans.

COOPERATION

The goal of the International Year of Disabled Persons was "Meeting the Challenges through Partnerships." Libraries demonstrated such cooperation through many activities. Prominent among these were workshops, conferences and seminars.

In Puerto Rico, the Department of Education, Public Library Division, held meetings and orientations coordinated with the Special Education Division; the Puerto Rico Association for the Blind, along with institutions and groups with visual and physical handicaps; and the Puerto Rico Library Society presented a panel discussion in its annual assembly, "Important Aspects in the Social Integration of the Persons with Handicaps: Education, Rehabilitation and Recreation." The Henrico County Public Library, Virginia, featured book talks by three authors: V. C. Andrews, Mercedes McCambridge, and Harold Russell. Each author is a disabled person who has become a successfully published author. The Virginia and North Carolina Special Library Associations presented a workshop on "Service to the Disabled in the Special Library."

The Annual Spirit of Liberation Day festivities on Guam was in recognition of the 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons. "Partners in Progress-A Salute to the Year of the Handicapped," was the slogan. The Governor of Guam and the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation co-sponsored a one-day conference on issues surrounding the disabled population. It was an exploration of access, participation, opportunity and expansion for future legislative and administrative change. The theme was "Greater Opportunities for the Disabled - the Challenge of the 80's." The Stoughton Public Library's Adult Services Department, Massachusetts, conducted a five week program series on disabled persons. Each week a different aspect of "The Handicapped Person" was examined - "Barrier Free;" "Best Boy"- concerns of a family with a mentally retarded member; "Independently Yours"- a recreational therapy fair: "The Blind Facts"- how those with visual handicaps can interact with their enviroment: "The Sounds of Silence"- the social and practical problems the deaf have in communication.

The Clark County Library District, Las Vegas, Nevada, developed a month long People-to People program which afforded Clark County residents the opportunity to initiate a partnership between disabled and non-disabled persons. Among the special events was an all-day forum with a panel of speakers addressing the myths and misconceptions surrounding the various types of impairments. A panel of state legislators presented possible answers to the needs of disabled persons in Nevada. The Free Public Library of Philadelphia co-sponsored a Conference on "The Media, the Disabled and the 80's." With local TV and radio personalities, newspaper reporters and book and magazine editors, the focus was on how the disabled are portrayed in the media and any changes in attitude

since a similar conference in 1977. A Pre-conference on library service to disabled readers was jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut State Library and the University of Connecticut. One feature of the Conference was four seminars on specific kinds of library service: Accessibility; Library service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped; Library Service to the Deaf Patron; Serving the formerly institutionalized library user.

In the Finger Lakes Library System, New York State, two workshops were conducted - one was concerned with new games showing easily graspable game pieces for people with various disabilities. The other was a workshop on films and what is available from the system. In the New York Public System, the Baychester Branch Library presented a film program on handicapped people. The film "Swedish Fokus" was a documentary on a Swedish apartment complex which has handicapped people living side-by-side with non-handicapped tenants. Another film, "First Encounter," was about the reactions of a new acquaintance between a handicapped and a non-handicapped child. This program was co-sponsored by Handicapped Adults Association, Inc.

"Mississippi Cares" was the title of a statewide conference sponsored by the Governor's Office of Human Development. The Mississippi Library Commission participated in the planning and presenting of the conference and prepared an extensive bibliography which was used at the conference, entitled THE WORLD OF THE DISABLED. The theme of the conference was "A New Beginning; Partnerships in Full Participation in Life." The Napa City/County Library and the Napa College Library, California, cooperated in publishing an IYDP bibliography and services pamphlet. The Northern Illinois University presented a two-day program, "Library Services for Disabled Persons: Technology/Resources/ Advances. The program included a combination of lectures, demonstrations, panel discussions and professional interchanges relating to services, research needs, resources and equipment for people with various types of disabilities including the visually and hearing impaired, the physically disabled, and the mentally disabled.

Throughout IYDP the libraries in the United States worked cooperatively in partnership with other agencies through joining with their activities to demonstrate the value of library service to people with disabilities.

In Massachusetts, individual libraries participated in IYDP observances through activities or through local townwide committees or were the recipients of special books, films and equipment donated by such groups as the Lions, Eagles, Kiwanias and Quota International. The Boise Public Library, Idaho, made direct efforts to inform patrons of potential services to the disabled. These were made in conjunction with other activities celebrating IYDP. In Hawaii, the Head of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped served on the State IYDP Committee so the Library was able to work with and participate in a number of community based activities. One such activity was "Hawaii IYDP Celebration Banquet." Many of the Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped activities were shown in the slide presentation in the program for the banquet.

In South Carolina, two members of the South Carolina State Library

served on subcommittees of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. The Deleware Division of Libraries presented exhibits emphasizing the Year of the Disabled at two Human Services Fairs and prepared a bibliography, "Library Resources for Understanding Disabilities," which was included in a brochure passed out at the fairs. The library at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Pittsburgh, hosted a workshop for approximately 60 school librarians. Featured were miniworkshops on topics related to special education.

The Oregon State Library contributed materials and photographs to the Vocational Rehabilitation mobile unit. This unit toured the State with informational displays from many agencies. The Northern Kentucky Subregional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped was active in the IYDP Committee which was formed to coordinate awareness of IYDP and to share information on available services. The library also participated in an "Aware Fair" where services to disabled were exhibited in a shopping mall. The Department of Education in Michigan participated in Lansing Mall's four day "Handicapper Perspective 81" with displays of library service and programs offered by the Blind and Physically Handicapped Unit of Library Services. Special Education Service Area, Vocational-Technical Education Service and Michigan Rehabilitation Services were also participants.

In the New York Public Library System, three branch libraries presented a photo exhibit on wheelchair Olympics. This program was sponsored by the Joseph Bulova Company. The Westchester Library System, New York, set up a booth at a county fair called EXPO. The primary purpose of the fair was to make the public aware of the handicapped person. A continuous showing of films about the handicapped was included. The Louisiana State Library Section for the Blind and Physically Handicapped had a display of its materials and services at the State Fair in Shreveport.

The Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handcapped. Philadelphia, developed the State's first GED and ABE courses for the blind, and it co-sponsorship of the opening of SENSE - STATIONS, a store run by blind persons which sells aids and appliances for the blind in the Deleware Valley. The International Year of Disabled Persons Southeastern Symposium, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority was held in Knoxville.

PERSONNEL

Library personnel has been reached through many activities of IYDP - training of present personnel, training of incoming staff members, and an increase in the employment of disabled persons.

A Symposium on Educating Librarians and Information Scientists and Library Services to Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals took place in San Francisco immediately following the 1981 Annual Conference of ALA. The recommendations developed from the Conference were presented to the International Federation of Library Associations in Leipzig, East Germany, in August. The Proceedings are reported in the publication issued under the title of the Conference.

The New York State Library, in cooperation with St. Mary's School for the Deaf, sponsored three workshops designed to assist librarians in developing a better understanding of deafness and its implications for library service. In Brooklyn Public Library, New York, staff meetings were held concerned with sensitivity training in working with persons with disabilities. The

New York Public Library System conducted a program open to all librarians. It was a panel of disabled people speaking to librarians and explaining how to work with disabled persons. The Nassau Library System, New York, set up a program with the MilMak School for the Deaf geared toward sensitivity awarenesss for both staff and patrons. The Queensborough Library System, New York, conducted a program on sensitivity training for librarians in serving the mentally handicapped . Training sessions were conducted to acquaint librarians with the services of the New York State Library, Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped. In the Michigan Department of Education, two IYDP programs were offered to the staff during the Year: "The Mental Health Players of Michigan Present...The Mad Hatters." This was a three hour presentation with audience participation. The Mad Hatters provided staff with an opportunity to discover that differences do not have to make a difference in human relationships. The scenario dealt with the effects of being labeled handicapped and the problems of unclear expectations and misconceptions. Four other staff development programs were held including a five-hour seminar presented by the staff of the Division of Deaf and Deafened, Michigan Department of Labor. This seminar provided concentrated information on the disability of deafness so program participants would better understand the unique characteristics of deafness and the special needs of deaf persons.

The Connecticut Council for IYDP published a comprehensive booklet, "Employment, Challenge and Cooperation," for IYDP which includes: Laws affecting disabled people and employment; Basic requirements affecting disabled people and employment; Characteristcs and Attitudes: Resources; Examples of Successfully Employed Disabled People. The Metropolitan Library Service Agency, Minnesota, sponsored workshops for 90 metropolitan public libraries on Deaf Awareness and Library Service to the Hearing Impaired. The Arrowhead Library System in the Duluth Public Library, Minnesota, sponsored a workshop in Deaf Awareness and Library Awareness and Library Service to the Hearing Impaired for 28 public libraries. The Arrowhead Library System also sponsored a workshop on library service to the blind and physically handicapped for their 28 member libraries.

The Philadelphia Free Library combined two staff meetings with all age level professionals and para-professionals coming together to hear experts from the Moss Rehabilitation Center discuss attitudinal barriers and how they can be overcome. The Department of Education. Public Library Division, Puerto Rico, held meetings and orientations coordinating with the Special Education Division, the Puerto Rico Association for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and groups with visual and physical handicaps. In Hawaii services from the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped featured telecommunication devices for the deaf at the Hawaii Library Association Conference. The Connecticut State Library in cooperation with the Connecticut Library Association sponsored a pre-conference workshop for public libraries on service to disabled readers.

In Scottsdale Arizona, the Public Library was named "Small Employer of the Year" by the Phoenix Mayor's Commission on Employment of the Handicapped. The citation read in part,"In every aspect of its facility planning, the library has taken into account the needs of handicapped employees and volunteers as well as library users."

The Butler Public Library, Pennsylvania, emphasized hiring handicapped workers. In the Citizens Library, Washington, Pennsylvania, hiring handicapped workers was emphasized, also, and they promoted "Hire the Handicapped" week as an IYDP focal point. The library's outreach coordinator also served on a countywide IYDP Committee. The Scranton Public Library, Pennsylvania, expanded its program of employing students from the Scranton State School for the Deaf.

RESOURCES

The Montogomery County Department of Public Libraries, Maryland, matched books in National Library Talking Book Service to their own collection and published a bibliography.

The New Hampshire libraries from across the State have banded together to make possible a union catalog of all Large Print books in libraries. All of it is fully and freely available on interlibrary loan.

The Division of Library Services to the Handicapped and Consultant Services to State Institutions in New Hampshire held workshops on materials and services to handicapped students. It opened and expanded seven talking book deposit collections in libraries around the State and expanded its network of volunteer narrators.

The Connecticut State Library provided state and federal money to outside libraries and institutions to serve the handicapped and developmentally disabled.

In the New York Public Library System, emphasis was placed on expanding the large print book collection. The North County Library System, New York, acquisitioned a collection of books for people who work with the deaf. These books primarily dealt with the teaching of sign language and finger spelling. The Westchester Library System, New York, increased its 16mm film collection this year with monies received from various agencies, banks, and organizations. The Mid-York Library System, New York, purchased new films about the handicapped.

Virginia, Minnesota, received a collection of books for deaf youngsters donated by a service club. The Trafford Community Library, Pennsylvania, initiated delivery to the homebound and began a concerted effort to build a large print collection. The Butler Public Library, Pennsylvania, has been involved in taping books for visually impaired children. The Great River Regional Library, Minnesota, purchased a closed captioned decoder for the St. Cloud Library television set. The Bucks County Free Library in Pennsylvania, through a grant, developed a special collection on disabilities. A special effort was made in Virginia to increase the resouces available to disabled people throughout the State. Twelve public libraries received grants totalling $67,701 to purchase materials or equipment for use by disabled persons.

Throughout IYDP, libraries increased their resources both in the area of providing services to the disabled and their families and to the community in general and in expanding their materials and equipment. Many libraries opened for the first time or expanded their centers equipped with Kurzweil Reading Machines. TDD's were installed in many libraries during the Year. Other resources installed included the Visualtek Machine, Apollo Laser and Large Print Magnifiers.

SERVICES

New services were provided by libraries and present services were expanded or strengthened. Many libraries continued or introduced continuing sign language courses for both the library staff and the public. Signed story hours were a part of many library programs as well as captioned film showings. "The Kids on the Block" puppets were popular library programs. Bibliographies and special catalogs and listings of materials were widely developed.

The Louisiana State Library prepared a special listing of films for programs for the International Year of Disabled Persons. The Buffalo-Erie Library System, New York, published a bibliography, "See Me More Clearly," which lists films, children's books, young adult books and adult materials on the disabled. They also developed a directory of member libraries with barrier-free access. The Mississippi Library Commission issued an extensive bibliography for IYDP entitled "The World of the Disabled." Included were books and films, government publications and other sources of information. The subjects included were: Disabled or Handicapped: Your Place in the Outside World: You and your Home: Your Personal Needs: Your Sexuality: The Disabled Parent: Leisure and Recreation: the Disabled/Handicapped Child: the Disablers.

The Manhattan Public Library, Kansas, also issued an extensive bibliography for IYDP entitled "Special Books for Special People: Books about and for Handicapped." Subjects included are: General Information: Apparatus for the Handicapped; Architecture; Attitudes toward the Handicapped; Children's Literature; Education: Employment Family Relations: Personal Narratives: Recreation: Sexual Behavior: Special Services: Sports; Travel. The Vermont State Library, for IYDP, produced an annotated list of 16mm films on disabilities; an annotated list of holdings (adult and juvenile) on blindness and visual impairment; and a list of holdings (adult only) on deafness and hearing impairment.

The Deleware Division of Libraries prepared an annotated bibliography in observance of IYDP. It is entitled "Library Resources for Understanding Disabilities." The bibliography was distributed to all public libraries for their patrons. Many libraries distributed bibliographies on IYDP through bookmarks made available to the public.

Highlights in Services during the International Year of Disabled Persons include a program presented at the 1981 American Library Association Conference, "Celebrating the International Year of Disabled Persons through Libraries," sponsored by the ASCLA/IYDP Committee. A tape of the program describing service to disabled persons was a product of the program. The Committee also worked with the Editor of THE LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY REPORTS to produce an issue devoted to technological services available to the disabled. The November/December Issue, 1981, is an extensive report covering these services.

The Ely and Grand Marais Libraries, Minnesota, inaugurated service to homebound persons with volunteers. Many other libraries also provide this service but these two started in 1981. The Morrison-Reeves Public Library, Richmond, Indiana, received an LSCA grant for services to the Deaf and Hearing Impaired. The project began in the fall of 1981 and is aimed at identifying deaf patrons and their needs and improving the library's ability to meet these needs.

Staff members have taken sign-language courses and are incorporating signed stories into the library story hours. The library also plans to buy a TTY and to develop its collection of materials for and relating to deaf and hearing impaired persons. In Stoughton, Massachusetts, the library was contacted by two parents of handicapped children. These adults were very much interested in forming an International Year of Disabled Persons Committee. It would be comprised of library personnel, school representatives, PTA members, and officials from the Stoughton Association for Exceptional Children. This Committee was formed and began meeting at the Library on a regular basis. At these times, suggestions were made, opinions were voiced and information was exchanged concerning what each person was working on in the representative organization. In the Services to the Homebound Program, the IYDP Committee recognized the need for more specialized materials for the handicapped. Funds for purchasing these materials were obtained through an Access Center Grant. Since receiving the grant, the library has been able to purchase a variety of aids for the disabled.

The State Library of Hawaii held a Fun Day Jamboree picnic with games and activities for handicapped persons and their families - this was an IYDP function. A Speakers Bureau was maintained in Hawaii also. Handicapped persons talked to organized groups and to classes about handicaps. The Handley Library in Winchester, Virginia, developed a toy library for preschool children with delayed physical, emotional or intellectual development to stiumulate developmental skills. In Puerto Rico, offerings were expanded to meet more effectively the needs of the physically handicapped. Depository collections were opened in five new public libraries and in another two special libraries. Services rendered increased from 7,681 to 13,349 in 1981.

The Omaha Public Library, Nebraska, made available a TTY/TDD news center to the hearing impaired in the community. By calling a special number from a TTY/TDD, the patron will get an automatic print-out of the week's news. The news is changed every Friday morning. The funding for the News Center was from deaf project monies of the Metropolitan Library Network in cooperation with the Nebraska Commission for the Hearing Impaired and the Nebraska Association of the Deaf. Signed story hours are being broadcast by the Omaha Public Library.

A 24 page booklet was developed by the Michigan Department of Education IYDP Committee to assist teachers in planning activities for the"International Year of Disabled Persons Week in Michigan Public Schools." The Departmental IYDP Committee was formed early in Michigan. The State Board of Education designated the week of October 25-31 to provide an opportunity for students to learn more about handicaps as well as learning a positve attitude toward handicapped persons. The Department of Education was publicly recognized in Michigan for its services to handicapped citizens when, in July 1981, the Lansing Postmaster presented the Superintendent of Public Instruction with the First Day Issue Souvenirs of the U. S. Stamp commemorating the International Year of Disabled Persons.

An extensive coverage of library service to disabled persons appeared in THE BOOKMARK of the New York State Library, Fall, 1981, entitled "Library Service to the Disabled." It is devoted exclusively to this subject in Celebration of IYDP. The September, 1981, issue of ILLINOIS LIBRARIES is devoted to "Breaking Down

Barriers: Information Services for Disabled Persons." This is the proceedings of a workshop sponsored by the Center for Rehabilitation Information, Library of Health Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and the Illinois State Library.

The Finger Lakes Library System, New York, has an RSVP worker who travels to various groups offering read-along programs with large-type music sheets. The Queensborough Library System, New York, is compiling a large print catalog of large print materials. The Patchogue Branch of the Suffolk Library System, New York, conducted a music program for patrons. The musicians were disabled persons. The Ohio Library Association Task Force on Library Service published an Awareness Calendar for IYDP, highlighting the events related to the disabled throughout the Year. The Library of Congress, National Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped Division published a well-illustrated calendar celebrating both IYDP and 50 years of service of the Division. The Ohio Library Task Force also prepared IYDP items for each issue of the OLA NEWSLETTER and engaged "The Rolling Stock Theatre" a troup of disabled/non-disabled students from Wright State University to appear at the OLA Annual Conference. The State Library of Ohio published its most recent directory of library resources and services for people with disabilities, LIBRARY ACCESS, 1981.

An informational brochure emphasizing "Call Your Library," ALA promotion, was developed by the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives to encourage Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped patrons to use the reference service available at the LBPH, toll free and at their local public library. Jefferson County Kentucky Library (Louisville Free Public Library) received a special project grant to promote service for the deaf from the Department of Libraries and Archives. The project included staff training in sign language, close-captioned film showings and establishment of a special reading area in the library. In West Virginia "Hears to You," a radio reading service for the blind, was broadcast throughout Southern West Virginia sponsored by the West Virginia Library Commission. About 700 special receiving sets are being distributed by the Commission to visually handicapped persons in Southern West Virginia. This is an expansion of services for the print handicapped. The service is primarily concerned with providing the daily newspaper to the listeners and information from other publications not provided by the National Library Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped program.

The RED NOTEBOOK is in every branch of the Washington D. C. Public Library. It is a depository for information about deafness, services for the deaf and library services which help deaf people and their families communicate their concerns to the hearing world. THE DEAF PERSON'S QUICK GUIDE TO WASHINGTON which was prepared by the District of Columbia Public Library in 1976, was revised in 1981.

A representative of the Central Research System, Indianapolis, Indiana, staff member wrote an article for use in locating funding sources. The article included a select annotated bibliography to help libraries know where to start as they seek funds for making their facilities more accessible and useful for the handicapped. The Salt Lake Library System, Salt Lake City, Utah, utilized the "Kids on the Block" puppets to present programs in

four of their branches. The puppet show was designed to acquaint children with various types of disabilities and help them realize how to be friends with the disabled. In addition, two adult films were shown in various branches. Both films were concerned with disabilities. The film dealing with the Osmond brothers, who are deaf, was very well received. Coincidentally, a telephone with amplification for the hearing impaired was installed at the Whitmore Library which is the headquarters for the Salt Lake County Library System. The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, under a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, will develop recorded humanities study kits for blind and disabled adults nationwide.

County Library projects in Maryland include: Deaf awareness campaign for citizens and staff by the Southern Maryland Regional Library Association; an assessment of the needs of residents who are deaf and their families, training library staff and initiating appropriate services were done by the Washington County Library; the offering of large print books and limited talking book service to the blind and physically handicapped is being made in the eight county region of the Eastern Shore Regional Library; Montgomery County Department of Library Service received a grant to purchase microcomputers and to train handicapped children and young adults in their use. The Project Director of the Enoch Pratt Free Library Center for the Visually and Hearing Impaired sponsored public programs on the International Year of Disabled Persons at Pratt and other libraries around the State. The Maryland Rehabilitation Center purchased films for disabled awareness and developed a project for focusing on job skills for disabled persons. The Springfield Hospital expanded library service to staff and residents.

WPLN, a radio reading service to the blind and a part of the Nashville Public Library, Tennessee, set up an exhibit at the "Creativity Festival." Three staff members from WPLN served on the Nashville Mayor's Committee of IYDP. Deaf Awareness is the thrust of the Carnegie Free Library, Midland, Pennsylvania. Portable teletypewriters, sign language classes and book and non-book resources are available for deaf residents through any branch of the Beaver County Federated Library System, Pennsylvania. Two comprehensive booklets which were issued for IYDP are "The Greater Cincinnati Council for the International Year of Disabled Persons" and "Crossroads, State of New Jersey, International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981."

In observance of the International Year of Disabled Persons in Illinois, libraries strengthened services and activities for disabled persons. Among these were: staff in-service training sessions on disabled patron's needs; establishing information and referral files on community resources; increasing publicity on specialized library services and activities for the disabled; improved physical accessibility to the library building and materials and programs within the building. The Illinois State Library administered the $240,853.00 which the General Assembly appropriated for Radio Information Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The State Library, among its other IYDP activities, acknowledged 350 accessible local libraries by awarding them exterior library signs. Among the International Year of Disabled Activities in North Carolina, was the "Special Services to Special Children" of the Forsyth County Public Library in Winston-Salem. Included in the Suggestions for Library Services to Children were: Ways to survey needs; special

services ideas; programming; and collection development - all with the goal of reaching physically and mentally handicapped children in Forsyth County who, for whatever reason, cannot reach other service points as well as those who are served by established libraries in other settings.

The work that has been done is carrying into the next year, the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982, and beyond into the Decade of Disabled Persons, the next ten years. There is an awareness of the need for special programs such as those of IYDP. There is hope for the provision of ongoing library service to disabled persons. An example of such a program is that of Throg's Neck Branch Library of the New York Public Library System where a program was begun in late 1981 for children who are physically and emotionally unable to attend school. The program features story telling, special performances and gift books for children. Libraries indicate that while they may be slowed down by the current budget crunch, their enthusiasm is as strong as ever and so is their dedication to the goals of the service. An example of determination to carry on into following years occurred at the South Carolina State Library where they had planned to initiate a project on service to the deaf in 1981, but because of funding delays it was postponed until 1982. The project involves placing TDD's in the larger public libraries, providing collections about or for the use of the deaf and the sponsoring of a statewide awareness workshop.

The information provided in this report is sketchy. It does not begin to recognize all of the libraries and other organizations which took active steps to observe the International Year of Disabled Persons through improved library service to disabled persons, nor does it detail the responsiveness to the programs initiated. These highlights provide only a hint of what occurred in the United States in Libraries in the International Year of Disabled Persons in 1981. It does indicate that libraries in the United States were responsive to the challenges of IYDP in 1981 and that their planning and implementation extend far beyond 1981.

Throughout the IYDP, the ASCLA IYDP Committee worked with libraries and librarians in other countries to make it truly an International Year. The libraries nationally and internationally focused well their attention on service to disabled persons in celebrating the International Year of Disabled Persons. Now the IYDP has become NYDP with the purpose of continuing the momentum of the International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981, into the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982. The United States is not the only country to adopt this national commitment. With Zambia and Peru leading the way, a number of other countries have also designated 1982 as NYDP.

The goals and programs of IYDP can be continued into 1982 and beyond by libraries. The slogan of the National Year of Disabled Persons, 1982, is "Follow Through in '82." The theme is "Continuing the Community Response to the Challenge of Disability." The objectives of the National Year of Disabled Persons, as did those of the International Year of Disabled Persons, blend in so well with the goals and programs of libraries that libraries are not limited to designated years nor decades but will continue their services to disabled persons throughout the years to come. Then all activities will be taking those natural and necessary steps toward keeping libraries both abreast of disabled citizens' needs and anticipating programs and resources required to meet them. Libraries, as part of the Community, will continue to respond to the "Challenge of Disability!"